

TITLE 9
EVIDENCE

CHAPTER 3
PUBLIC WRITINGS

9-337. Definitions. As used in sections [9-337](#) through [9-347](#), Idaho Code:

- (1) "Applicant" means any person formally seeking a paid or volunteer position with a public agency. "Applicant" does not include any person seeking appointment to a position normally filled by election.
- (2) "Copy" means transcribing by handwriting, photocopying, duplicating machine and reproducing by any other means so long as the public record is not altered or damaged.
- (3) "Custodian" means the person having personal custody and control of the public records in question. If no such designation is made by the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic, then custodian means any public official having custody of, control of, or authorized access to public records and includes all delegates of such officials, employees or representatives.
- (4) "Independent public body corporate and politic" means the Idaho housing and finance association as created in [chapter 62, title 67](#), Idaho Code.
- (5) "Inspect" means the right to listen, view and make notes of public records as long as the public record is not altered or damaged.
- (6) "Investigatory record" means information with respect to an identifiable person, group of persons or entities compiled by a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic pursuant to its statutory authority in the course of investigating a specific act, omission, failure to act, or other conduct over which the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic has regulatory authority or law enforcement authority.
- (7) "Law enforcement agency" means any state or local agency given law enforcement powers or which has authority to investigate, enforce, prosecute or punish violations of state or federal criminal statutes, ordinances or regulations.
- (8) "Local agency" means a county, city, school district, municipal corporation, district, public health district, political subdivision, or any agency thereof, or any committee of a local agency, or any combination thereof.
- (9) "Person" means any natural person, corporation, partnership, firm, association, joint venture, state or local agency or any other recognized legal entity.
- (10) "Prisoner" means a person who has been convicted of a crime and is either incarcerated or on parole for that crime or who is being held in custody for trial or sentencing.
- (11) "Public agency" means any state or local agency as defined in this section.
- (12) "Public official" means any state, county, local district, independent public body corporate and politic or governmental official or employee, whether elected, appointed or hired.
- (13) "Public record" includes, but is not limited to, any writing containing information relating to the conduct or administration of the public's business prepared, owned, used or retained by any state agency, independent public body corporate and politic or local agency regardless of physical form or characteristics.
- (14) "Requester" means the person requesting examination and/or copying of public records pursuant to section [9-338](#), Idaho Code.
- (15) "State agency" means every state officer, department, division, bureau, commission and board or any committee of a state agency including those in the legislative or judicial branch, except the state militia and the Idaho state historical society library and archives.
- (16) "Writing" includes, but is not limited to, handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostating, photographing and every means of recording, including letters, words, pictures, sounds or symbols or combination thereof, and all papers, maps, magnetic or paper tapes, photographic films and prints, magnetic or punched cards, discs, drums or other documents.

9-338. Public records -- Right to examine. (1) Every person has a right to examine and take a copy of any public record of this state and there is a presumption that all public records in Idaho are open at all reasonable times for inspection except as otherwise expressly provided by statute.

- (2) The right to copy public records shall include the right to make photographs or photographic or other copies while the records are in the possession of the custodian of the records using equipment provided by the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic or using equipment designated by the custodian.
- (3) Additionally, the custodian of any public record shall give the person, on demand, a certified copy of it if the record is of a nature permitting such copying or shall furnish reasonable opportunity to inspect or copy such record.
- (4) A public agency or independent public body corporate and politic may require that a request for public records be submitted to it in a writing that provides the requester's name, mailing address, e-mail address and telephone number. A request for public records and delivery of the public records may be made by electronic mail.
- (5) The custodian shall make no inquiry of any person who requests a public record, except:
 - (a) To verify the identity of the requester in accordance with section [9-342](#), Idaho Code; or
 - (b) To ensure that the requested record or information will not be used for purposes of a mailing or telephone list prohibited by section [9-348](#), Idaho Code, or as otherwise provided by law; or
 - (c) As required for purposes of protecting personal information from disclosure under [chapter 2, title 49](#), Idaho Code, and federal law.
- (6) The custodian shall not review, examine or scrutinize any copy, photograph or memoranda in the possession of any such person and shall extend to the person all reasonable comfort and facility for the full exercise of the right granted under this act.
- (7) Nothing herein contained shall prevent the custodian from maintaining such vigilance as is required to prevent alteration of any public record while it is being examined.

(8) Examination of public records under the authority of this section must be conducted during regular office or working hours unless the custodian shall authorize examination of records in other than regular office or working hours. In this event, the persons designated to represent the custodian during such examination shall be entitled to reasonable compensation to be paid to them by the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic having custody of such records, out of funds provided in advance by the person examining such records, at other than regular office or working hours.

(9) The public agency or independent public body corporate and politic may provide the requester information to help the requester narrow the scope of the request or to help the requester make the request more specific when the response to the request is likely to be voluminous or require payment as provided in section [9-338](#)(10), Idaho Code.

(10) (a) Except for fees that are authorized or prescribed under other provisions of Idaho law, no fee shall be charged for the first two (2) hours of labor in responding to a request for public records, or for copying the first one hundred (100) pages of paper records that are requested.

(b) A public agency or independent public body corporate and politic or public official may establish fees to recover the actual labor and copying costs associated with locating and copying documents if:

(i) The request is for more than one hundred (100) pages of paper records; or

(ii) The request includes records from which nonpublic information must be deleted; or

(iii) The actual labor associated with responding to requests for public records in compliance with the provisions of this chapter exceeds two (2) person hours.

(c) A public agency or independent public body corporate and politic or public official may establish a copying fee schedule. The fee may not exceed the actual cost to the agency of copying the record if another fee is not otherwise provided by law.

(d) For providing a duplicate of a computer tape, computer disc, microfilm or similar or analogous record system containing public record information, a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic or public official may charge a fee, uniform to all persons that does not exceed the sum of the following:

(i) The agency's direct cost of copying the information in that form;

(ii) The standard cost, if any, for selling the same information in the form of a publication;

(iii) The agency's cost of conversion, or the cost of conversion charged by a third party, if the existing electronic record is converted to another electronic form.

(e) Fees shall not exceed reasonable labor costs necessarily incurred in responding to a public records request. Fees, if charged, shall reflect the personnel and quantity of time that are reasonably necessary to process a request. Fees for labor costs shall be charged at the per hour pay rate of the lowest paid administrative staff employee or public official of the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic who is necessary and qualified to process the request. If a request requires redactions to be made by an attorney who is employed by the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic, the rate charged shall be no more than the per hour rate of the lowest paid attorney within the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic who is necessary and qualified to process the public records request. If a request is submitted to a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic that does not have an attorney on staff, and requires redactions by an attorney, the rate shall be no more than the usual and customary rate of the attorney who is retained by the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic for that purpose.

(f) The public agency or independent public body corporate and politic shall not charge any cost or fee for copies or labor when the requester demonstrates that the requester's examination and/or copying of public records:

(i) Is likely to contribute significantly to the public's understanding of the operations or activities of the government;

(ii) Is not primarily in the individual interest of the requester including, but not limited to, the requester's interest in litigation in which the requester is or may become a party; and

(iii) Will not occur if fees are charged because the requester has insufficient financial resources to pay such fees.

(g) Statements of fees by a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic shall be itemized to show the per page costs for copies, and hourly rates of employees and attorneys involved in responding to the request, and the actual time spent on the public records request. No lump sum costs shall be assigned to any public records request.

(11) A requester may not file multiple requests for public records solely to avoid payment of fees. When a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic reasonably believes that one (1) or more requesters is segregating a request into a series of requests to avoid payment of fees authorized pursuant to this section, the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic may aggregate such requests and charge the appropriate fees. The public agency or independent public body corporate and politic may consider the time period in which the requests have been made in its determination to aggregate the related requests. A public agency or independent public body corporate and politic shall not aggregate multiple requests on unrelated subjects from one (1) requester.

(12) The custodian may require advance payment of fees authorized by this section. Any money received by the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic shall be credited to the account for which the expense being reimbursed was or will be charged, and such funds may be expended by the agency as part of its appropriation from that fund. Any portion of an advance payment in excess of the actual costs of labor and copying incurred by the agency in responding to the request shall be returned to the requester.

(13) A public agency or independent public body corporate and politic shall not prevent the examination or copying of a public record by contracting with a nongovernmental body to perform any of its duties or functions.

(14) Nothing contained herein shall prevent a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic from disclosing statistical information that is descriptive of an identifiable person or persons, unless prohibited by law.

(15) Nothing contained herein shall prevent a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic from providing a copy of a public record in electronic form if the record is available in electronic form and if the person specifically requests an electronic copy.

9-339. Response to request for examination of public records. (1) A public agency or independent public body corporate and politic shall either grant or deny a person's request to examine or copy public records within three (3) working days of the date of the receipt of the request for examination or copying. If it is determined by employees of the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic that a longer period of time is needed to locate or retrieve the public records, the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic shall so notify in writing the person requesting

to examine or copy the records and shall provide the public records to the person no later than ten (10) working days following the person's request. Provided however, if it is determined the existing electronic record requested will first have to be converted to another electronic format by the agency or by a third party and that such conversion cannot be completed within ten (10) working days, the agency shall so notify in writing the person requesting to examine or copy the records. The agency shall provide the converted public record at a time mutually agreed upon between the agency and the requester, with due consideration given to any limitations that may exist due to the process of conversion or due to the use of a third party to make the conversion.

(2) If the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic fails to respond, the request shall be deemed to be denied within ten (10) working days following the request.

(3) If the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic denies the person's request for examination or copying the public records or denies in part and grants in part the person's request for examination and copying of the public records, the person legally responsible for administering the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic or that person's designee shall notify the person in writing of the denial or partial denial of the request for the public record.

(4) The notice of denial or partial denial shall state that the attorney for the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic has reviewed the request or shall state that the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic has had an opportunity to consult with an attorney regarding the request for examination or copying of a record and has chosen not to do so. The notice of denial or partial denial also shall indicate the statutory authority for the denial and indicate clearly the person's right to appeal the denial or partial denial and the time periods for doing so.

9-340A. Records exempt from disclosure -- Exemptions in federal or state law -- Court files of judicial proceedings. The following records are exempt from disclosure:

(1) Any public record exempt from disclosure by federal or state law or federal regulations to the extent specifically provided for by such law or regulation.

(2) Records contained in court files of judicial proceedings, the disclosure of which is prohibited by or under rules adopted by the Idaho supreme court, but only to the extent that confidentiality is provided under such rules, and any drafts or other working memoranda related to judicial decision-making, provided the provisions of this subsection making records exempt from disclosure shall not apply to the extent that such records or information contained in those records are necessary for a background check on an individual that is required by federal law regulating the sale of firearms, guns or ammunition.

9-340B. RECORDS EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE -- LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORDS, INVESTIGATORY RECORDS OF AGENCIES, EVACUATION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS, WORKER'S COMPENSATION. The following records are exempt from disclosure:

(1) Investigatory records of a law enforcement agency, as defined in section [9-337\(7\)](#), Idaho Code, under the conditions set forth in section [9-335](#), Idaho Code.

(2) Juvenile records of a person maintained pursuant to [chapter 5, title 20](#), Idaho Code, except that facts contained in such records shall be furnished upon request in a manner determined by the court to persons and governmental and private agencies and institutions conducting pertinent research studies or having a legitimate interest in the protection, welfare and treatment of the juvenile who is thirteen (13) years of age or younger. If the juvenile is petitioned or charged with an offense which would be a criminal offense if committed by an adult, the name, offense of which the juvenile was petitioned or charged and disposition of the court shall be subject to disclosure as provided in section [20-525](#), Idaho Code. Additionally, facts contained in any records of a juvenile maintained under [chapter 5, title 20](#), Idaho Code, shall be furnished upon request to any school district where the juvenile is enrolled or is seeking enrollment.

(3) Records of the custody review board of the Idaho department of juvenile corrections, including records containing the names, addresses and written statements of victims and family members of juveniles, shall be exempt from public disclosure pursuant to section [20-533A](#), Idaho Code.

(4) (a) The following records of the department of correction:

(i) Records of which the public interest in confidentiality, public safety, security and habilitation clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure as identified pursuant to the authority of the Idaho board of correction under section [20-212](#), Idaho Code;

(ii) Records that contain any identifying information, or any information that would lead to the identification of any victims or witnesses;

(iii) Records that reflect future transportation or movement of a prisoner;

(iv) Records gathered during the course of the presentence investigation;

(v) Records of a prisoner, as defined in section [9-337\(10\)](#), Idaho Code, or probationer shall not be disclosed to any other prisoner or probationer.

(b) Records of buildings, facilities, infrastructures and systems held by or in the custody of any public agency only when the disclosure of such information would jeopardize the safety of persons or the public safety. Such records may include emergency evacuation, escape or other emergency response plans, vulnerability assessments, operation and security manuals, plans, blueprints or security codes. For purposes of this section "system" shall mean electrical, heating, ventilation, air conditioning and telecommunication systems.

(c) Records of the commission of pardons and parole shall be exempt from public disclosure pursuant to section [20-213A](#), Idaho Code, and section [20-223](#), Idaho Code. Records exempt from disclosure shall also include those containing the names, addresses and written statements of victims.

(5) Voting records of the sexual offender classification board. The written record of the vote to classify an offender as a violent sexual predator by each board member in each case reviewed by that board member shall be exempt from disclosure to the public and shall be made available upon request only to the governor, the chairman of the senate judiciary and rules committee, and the chairman of the house of representatives judiciary, rules and administration committee, for all lawful purposes.

(6) Records of the sheriff or Idaho state police received or maintained pursuant to sections [18-3302](#), [18-3302H](#) and [18-3302K](#), Idaho Code, relating to an applicant or licensee except that any law enforcement officer and law enforcement agency, whether inside or outside the state of Idaho, may access information maintained in the license record system as set forth in section [18-3302K](#)(13), Idaho Code.

(7) Records of investigations prepared by the department of health and welfare pursuant to its statutory responsibilities dealing with the protection of children, the rehabilitation of youth, adoptions and the commitment of mentally ill persons. For reasons of health and safety, best interests of the child or public interest, the department of health and welfare may provide for the disclosure of records of investigations associated with actions pursuant to the provisions of [chapter 16, title 16](#), Idaho Code, prepared by the department of health and welfare pursuant to its statutory responsibilities dealing with the protection of children except any such records regarding adoptions shall remain exempt from disclosure.

(8) Records including, but not limited to, investigative reports, resulting from investigations conducted into complaints of discrimination made to the Idaho human rights commission unless the public interest in allowing inspection and copying of such records outweighs the legitimate public or private interest in maintaining confidentiality of such records. A person may inspect and copy documents from an investigative file to which he or she is a named party if such documents are not otherwise prohibited from disclosure by federal law or regulation or state law. The confidentiality of this subsection will no longer apply to any record used in any judicial proceeding brought by a named party to the complaint or investigation, or by the Idaho human rights commission, relating to the complaint of discrimination.

(9) Records containing information obtained by the manager of the Idaho state insurance fund pursuant to [chapter 9, title 72](#), Idaho Code, from or on behalf of employers or employees contained in underwriting and claims for benefits files.

(10) The worker's compensation records of the Idaho industrial commission provided that the industrial commission shall make such records available:

(a) To the parties in any worker's compensation claim and to the industrial special indemnity fund of the state of Idaho; or
(b) To employers and prospective employers subject to the provisions of the Americans with disabilities act, 42 U.S.C. 12112, or other statutory limitations, who certify that the information is being requested with respect to a worker to whom the employer has extended an offer of employment and will be used in accordance with the provisions of the Americans with disabilities act, 42 U.S.C. 12112, or other statutory limitations; or

(c) To employers and prospective employers not subject to the provisions of the Americans with disabilities act, 42 U.S.C. 12112, or other statutory limitations, provided the employer presents a written authorization from the person to whom the records pertain; or

(d) To others who demonstrate that the public interest in allowing inspection and copying of such records outweighs the public or private interest in maintaining the confidentiality of such records, as determined by a civil court of competent jurisdiction; or

(e) Although a claimant's records maintained by the industrial commission, including medical and rehabilitation records, are otherwise exempt from public disclosure, the quoting or discussing of medical or rehabilitation records contained in the industrial commission's records during a hearing for compensation or in a written decision issued by the industrial commission shall be permitted; provided further, the true identification of the parties shall not be exempt from public disclosure in any written decision issued and released to the public by the industrial commission.

(11) Records of investigations compiled by the commission on aging involving vulnerable adults, as defined in section [18-1505](#), Idaho Code, alleged to be abused, neglected or exploited.

(12) Criminal history records and fingerprints, as defined by section [67-3001](#), Idaho Code, and compiled by the Idaho state police. Such records shall be released only in accordance with [chapter 30, title 67](#), Idaho Code.

(13) Records furnished or obtained pursuant to section [41-1019](#), Idaho Code, regarding termination of an appointment, employment, contract or other insurance business relationship between an insurer and a producer.

(14) Records of a prisoner or former prisoner in the custody of any state or local correctional facility, when the request is made by another prisoner in the custody of any state or local correctional facility.

(15) Except as provided in section [72-1007](#), Idaho Code, records of the Idaho industrial commission relating to compensation for crime victims under [chapter 10, title 72](#), Idaho Code.

(16) Records or information identifying a complainant maintained by the department of health and welfare pursuant to section [39-3556](#), Idaho Code, relating to certified family homes, unless the complainant consents in writing to the disclosure or the disclosure of the complainant's identity is required in any administrative or judicial proceeding.

9-340C. RECORDS EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE -- PERSONNEL RECORDS, PERSONAL INFORMATION, HEALTH RECORDS, PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINE. The following records are exempt from disclosure:

(1) Except as provided in this subsection, all personnel records of a current or former public official other than the public official's public service or employment history, classification, pay grade and step, longevity, gross salary and salary history, status, workplace and employing agency. All other personnel information relating to a public employee or applicant including, but not limited to, information regarding sex, race, marital status, birth date, home address and telephone number, applications, testing and scoring materials, grievances, correspondence and performance evaluations, shall not be disclosed to the public without the employee's or applicant's written consent. Names of applicants to classified or merit system positions shall not be disclosed to the public without the applicant's written consent. Disclosure of names as part of a background check is permitted. Names of the five (5) final applicants to all other positions shall be available to the public. If such group is less than five (5) finalists, then the entire list of applicants shall be available to the public. A public official or authorized representative may inspect and copy his personnel records, except for material used to screen and test for employment.

(2) Retired employees' and retired public officials' home addresses, home telephone numbers and other financial and nonfinancial membership records; active and inactive member financial and membership records and mortgage portfolio loan documents maintained by the public employee retirement system. Financial statements prepared by retirement system staff, funding agents and custodians concerning the investment of assets of the public employee retirement system of Idaho are not considered confidential under this chapter.

(3) Information and records submitted to the Idaho state lottery for the performance of background investigations of employees, lottery retailers and major procurement contractors; audit records of lottery retailers, vendors and major procurement contractors submitted to or performed by the Idaho state lottery; validation and security tests of the state lottery for lottery games; business records and information submitted pursuant to sections [67-7412](#)(8) and (9) and [67-7421](#)(8) and (9), Idaho Code, and such documents and information obtained and held for the purposes of lottery security and investigative action as determined by lottery rules unless the public interest in disclosure substantially outweighs the private need for protection from public disclosure.

(4) Records of a personal nature as follows:

- (a) Records of personal debt filed with a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic pursuant to law;
- (b) Personal bank records compiled by a public depositor for the purpose of public funds transactions conducted pursuant to law;
- (c) Records of ownership of financial obligations and instruments of a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic, such as bonds, compiled by the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic pursuant to law;
- (d) Records, with regard to the ownership of, or security interests in, registered public obligations;
- (e) Vital statistics records; and
- (f) Military records as described in and pursuant to section [65-301](#), Idaho Code.

(5) Information in an income or other tax return measured by items of income or sales, which is gathered by a public agency for the purpose of administering the tax, except such information to the extent disclosed in a written decision of the tax commission pursuant to a taxpayer protest of a deficiency determination by the tax commission, under the provisions of section [63-3045B](#), Idaho Code.

(6) Records of a personal nature related directly or indirectly to the application for and provision of statutory services rendered to persons applying for public care for people who are elderly, indigent or have mental or physical disabilities, or participation in an environmental or a public health study, provided the provisions of this subsection making records exempt from disclosure shall not apply to the extent that such records or information contained in those records are necessary for a background check on an individual that is required by federal law regulating the sale of firearms, guns or ammunition.

(7) Employment security information, except that a person may agree, through written, informed consent, to waive the exemption so that a third party may obtain information pertaining to the person, unless access to the information by the person is restricted by subsection (3)(a), (3)(b) or (3)(d) of section [9-342](#), Idaho Code. Notwithstanding the provisions of section [9-342](#), Idaho Code, a person may not review identifying information concerning an informant who reported to the department of labor a suspected violation by the person of the employment security law, [chapter 13, title 72](#), Idaho Code, under an assurance of confidentiality. As used in this section and in [chapter 13, title 72](#), Idaho Code, "employment security information" means any information descriptive of an identifiable person or persons that is received by, recorded by, prepared by, furnished to or collected by the department of labor or the industrial commission in the administration of the employment security law.

(8) Any personal records, other than names, business addresses and business phone numbers, such as parentage, race, religion, sex, height, weight, tax identification and social security numbers, financial worth or medical condition submitted to any public agency or independent public body corporate and politic pursuant to a statutory requirement for licensing, certification, permit or bonding.

(9) Unless otherwise provided by agency rule, information obtained as part of an inquiry into a person's fitness to be granted or retain a license, certificate, permit, privilege, commission or position, private association peer review committee records authorized in [title 54](#), Idaho Code. Any agency which has records exempt from disclosure under the provisions of this subsection shall annually make available a statistical summary of the number and types of matters considered and their disposition.

(10) The records, findings, determinations and decisions of any prelitigation screening panel formed under chapters 10 and 23, [title 6](#), Idaho Code.

(11) Complaints received by the board of medicine and investigations and informal proceedings, including informal proceedings of any committee of the board of medicine, pursuant to [chapter 18, title 54](#), Idaho Code, and rules adopted thereunder.

(12) Records of the department of health and welfare or a public health district that identify a person infected with a reportable disease.

(13) Records of hospital care, medical records, including prescriptions, drug orders, records or any other prescription information that specifically identifies an individual patient, prescription records maintained by the board of pharmacy under sections [37-2726](#) and [37-2730A](#), Idaho Code, records of psychiatric care or treatment and professional counseling records relating to an individual's condition, diagnosis, care or treatment, provided the provisions of this subsection making records exempt from disclosure shall not apply to the extent that such records or information contained in those records are necessary for a background check on an individual that is required by federal law regulating the sale of firearms, guns or ammunition.

(14) Information collected pursuant to the directory of new hires act, [chapter 16, title 72](#), Idaho Code.

(15) Personal information contained in motor vehicle and driver records that is exempt from disclosure under the provisions of [chapter 2, title 49](#), Idaho Code.

(16) Records of the financial status of prisoners pursuant to subsection (2) of section [20-607](#), Idaho Code.

(17) Records of the Idaho state police or department of correction received or maintained pursuant to section [19-5514](#), Idaho Code, relating to DNA databases and databanks.

(18) Records of the department of health and welfare relating to a survey, resurvey or complaint investigation of a licensed nursing facility shall be exempt from disclosure. Such records shall, however, be subject to disclosure as public records as soon as the facility in question has received the report, and no later than the fourteenth day following the date that department of health and welfare representatives officially exit the facility pursuant to federal regulations. Provided however, that for purposes of confidentiality, no record shall be released under this section which specifically identifies any nursing facility resident.

(19) Records and information contained in the registry of immunizations against childhood diseases maintained in the department of health and welfare, including information disseminated to others from the registry by the department of health and welfare.

(20) Records of the Idaho housing and finance association (IHFA) relating to the following:

(a) Records containing personal financial, family, health or similar personal information submitted to or otherwise obtained by the IHFA;

(b) Records submitted to or otherwise obtained by the IHFA with regard to obtaining and servicing mortgage loans and all records relating to the review, approval or rejection by the IHFA of said loans;

(c) Mortgage portfolio loan documents;

(d) Records of a current or former employee other than the employee's duration of employment with the association, position held and location of employment. This exemption from disclosure does not include the contracts of employment or any remuneration, including reimbursement of expenses, of the executive director, executive officers or commissioners of the association. All other personnel information relating to an association employee or applicant including, but not limited to, information regarding sex, race, marital status, birth date, home address and telephone number, applications, testing and scoring materials, grievances, correspondence, retirement plan information and performance evaluations, shall not be disclosed to the public without the employee's or applicant's written consent. An employee or authorized representative may inspect and copy that employee's personnel records, except for material used to screen and test for employment or material not subject to disclosure elsewhere in the Idaho public records act.

(21) Records of the department of health and welfare related to child support services in cases in which there is reasonable evidence of domestic violence, as defined in [chapter 63, title 39](#), Idaho Code, that can be used to locate any individuals in the child support case except in response to a court order.

(22) Records of the Idaho state bar lawyer assistance program pursuant to [chapter 49, title 54](#), Idaho Code, unless a participant in the program authorizes the release pursuant to subsection (4) of section [54-4901](#), Idaho Code.

(23) Records and information contained in the trauma registry created by [chapter 20, title 57](#), Idaho Code, together with any reports, analyses and compilations created from such information and records.

(24) Records contained in the court files, or other records prepared as part of proceedings for judicial authorization of sterilization procedures pursuant to [chapter 39, title 39](#), Idaho Code.

(25) The physical voter registration card on file in the county clerk's office; however, a redacted copy of said card shall be made available consistent with the requirements of this section. Information from the voter registration card maintained in the statewide voter registration database, including age, will be made available except for the voter's driver's license number, date of birth and, upon a showing that the voter comes within the provisions of subsection (30) of this section or upon showing of good cause by the voter to the county clerk in consultation with the county prosecuting attorney, the physical residence address of the voter. For the purposes of this subsection good cause shall include the protection of life and property and protection of victims of domestic violence and similar crimes.

(26) File numbers, passwords and information in the files of the health care directive registry maintained by the secretary of state under section [39-4515](#), Idaho Code, are confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person other than to the person who executed the health care directive or the revocation thereof and that person's legal representatives, to the person who registered the health care directive or revocation thereof, and to physicians, hospitals, medical personnel, nursing homes, and other persons who have been granted file number and password access to the documents within that specific file.

(27) Records in an address confidentiality program participant's file as provided for in [chapter 57, title 19](#), Idaho Code, other than the address designated by the secretary of state, except under the following circumstances:

(a) If requested by a law enforcement agency, to the law enforcement agency; or

(b) If directed by a court order, to a person identified in the order.

(28) Except as otherwise provided by law relating to the release of information to a governmental entity or law enforcement agency, any personal information including, but not limited to, names, personal and business addresses and phone numbers, sex, height, weight, date of birth, social security and driver's license numbers, or any other identifying numbers and/or information related to any Idaho fish and game licenses, permits and tags unless written consent is obtained from the affected person.

(29) Documents and records related to continuing education and recordkeeping violations that are maintained by the Idaho board of veterinary medicine under the provisions of section [54-2118\(1\)\(b\)](#), Idaho Code, provided the requirements set forth therein are met.

(30) The Idaho residential street address and telephone number of an eligible law enforcement officer and such officer's residing household member(s) as provided for in [chapter 58, title 19](#), Idaho Code, except under the following circumstances:

(a) If directed by a court order, to a person identified in the court order;

(b) If requested by a law enforcement agency, to the law enforcement agency;

(c) If requested by a financial institution or title company for business purposes, to the requesting financial institution or title company; or

(d) If the law enforcement officer provides written permission for disclosure of such information.

(31) All information exchanged between the Idaho transportation department and insurance companies, any database created, all information contained in the verification system and all reports, responses or other information generated for the purposes of the verification system, pursuant to section [49-1234](#), Idaho Code.

(32) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the release of information to the state controller as the state social security administrator as provided in section [59-1101A](#), Idaho Code.

(33) Personal information including, but not limited to, property values, personal and business addresses, phone numbers, dates of birth, social security and driver's license numbers or any other identifying numbers or information maintained by the administrator of the unclaimed property law set forth in [chapter 5, title 14](#), Idaho Code. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the release of names, last known city of residence, property value ranges and general property information by the administrator for the purpose of reuniting unclaimed property with its owner.

9-340D. Records exempt from disclosure -- Trade secrets, production records, appraisals, bids, proprietary information. The following records are exempt from disclosure:

(1) Trade secrets including those contained in response to public agency or independent public body corporate and politic requests for proposal, requests for clarification, requests for information and similar requests. "Trade secrets" as used in this section means information, including a formula, pattern, compilation, program, computer program, device, method, technique, process, or unpublished or in progress research that:

(a) Derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and

(b) Is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

(2) Production records, housing production, rental and financing records, sale or purchase records, catch records, mortgage portfolio loan documents, or similar business records of a private concern or enterprise required by law to be submitted to or inspected by a public agency or submitted to or otherwise obtained by an independent public body corporate and politic. Nothing in this subsection shall limit the use which can be made of such information for regulatory purposes or its admissibility in any enforcement proceeding.

(3) Records relating to the appraisal of real property, timber or mineral rights prior to its acquisition, sale or lease by a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic.

(4) Any estimate prepared by a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic that details the cost of a public project until such time as disclosed or bids are opened, or upon award of the contract for construction of the public project.

(5) Examination, operating or condition reports and all documents relating thereto, prepared by or supplied to any public agency or independent public body corporate and politic responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions including, but not limited to, banks, savings and loan associations, regulated lenders, business and industrial development corporations, credit unions, and insurance companies, or for the regulation or supervision of the issuance of securities.

(6) Records gathered by a local agency or the Idaho department of commerce, as described in [chapter 47, title 67](#), Idaho Code, for the specific purpose of assisting a person to locate, maintain, invest in, or expand business operations in the state of Idaho.

(7) Shipping and marketing records of commodity commissions used to evaluate marketing and advertising strategies and the names and addresses of growers and shippers maintained by commodity commissions.

(8) Financial statements and business information and reports submitted by a legal entity to a port district organized under [title 70](#), Idaho Code, in connection with a business agreement, or with a development proposal or with a financing application for any industrial, manufacturing, or other business activity within a port district.

(9) Names and addresses of seed companies, seed crop growers, seed crop consignees, locations of seed crop fields, variety name and acreage by variety. Upon the request of the owner of the proprietary variety, this information shall be released to the owner. Provided however, that if a seed crop has been identified as diseased or has been otherwise identified by the Idaho department of agriculture, other state departments of agriculture, or the United States department of agriculture to represent a threat to that particular seed or commercial crop industry or to individual growers, information as to test results, location, acreage involved and disease symptoms of that particular seed crop, for that growing season, shall be available for public inspection and copying. This exemption shall not supersede the provisions of section [22-436](#), Idaho Code, nor shall this exemption apply to information regarding specific property locations subject to an open burning of crop residue pursuant to section [39-114](#), Idaho Code, names of persons responsible for the open burn, acreage and crop type to be burned, and time frames for burning.

(10) Information obtained from books, records and accounts required in [chapter 47, title 22](#), Idaho Code, to be maintained by the Idaho oilseed commission and pertaining to the individual production records of oilseed growers.

(11) Records of any risk retention or self-insurance program prepared in anticipation of litigation or for analysis of or settlement of potential or actual money damage claims against a public entity and its employees or against the industrial special indemnity fund except as otherwise discoverable under the Idaho or federal rules of civil procedure. These records shall include, but are not limited to, claims evaluations, investigatory records, computerized reports of losses, case reserves, internal documents and correspondence relating thereto. At the time any claim is concluded, only statistical data and actual amounts paid in settlement shall be deemed a public record unless otherwise ordered to be sealed by a court of competent jurisdiction. Provided however, nothing in this subsection is intended to limit the attorney client privilege or attorney work product privilege otherwise available to any public agency or independent public body corporate and politic.

(12) Records of laboratory test results provided by or retained by the Idaho food quality assurance laboratory. Nothing in this subsection shall limit the use which can be made, or availability of such information if used, for regulatory purposes or its admissibility in any enforcement proceeding.

(13) Reports required to be filed under [chapter 13, title 62](#), Idaho Code, identifying electrical or natural or manufactured gas consumption data for an individual customer or account.

(14) Voluntarily prepared environmental audits, and voluntary disclosures of information submitted on or before December 31, 1997, to an environmental agency, which are claimed to be confidential business information.

(15) Computer programs developed or purchased by or for any public agency or independent public body corporate and politic for its own use. As used in this subsection, "computer program" means a series of instructions or statements which permit the functioning of a computer system in a manner designed to provide storage, retrieval and manipulation of data from the computer system, and any associated documentation and source material that explain how to operate the computer program. Computer program does not include:

(a) The original data including, but not limited to, numbers, text, voice, graphics and images;

(b) Analysis, compilation and other manipulated forms of the original data produced by use of the program; or

(c) The mathematical or statistical formulas that would be used if the manipulated forms of the original data were to be produced manually.

(16) Active investigative records and trademark usage audits of the Idaho potato commission specifically relating to the enforcement of [chapter 12, title 22](#), Idaho Code, until the commencement of formal proceedings as provided by rules of the commission; purchase and sales information submitted to the Idaho potato commission during a trademark usage

audit, and investigation or enforcement proceedings. Inactive investigatory records shall be disclosed unless the disclosure would violate the standards set forth in subsections (1)(a) through (f) of section [9-335](#), Idaho Code. Nothing in this subsection shall limit the use which can be made, or availability of such information if used, for regulatory purposes or its admissibility in any enforcement proceeding.

(17) All records copied or obtained by the director of the department of agriculture or his designee as a result of an inspection pursuant to section [25-3806](#), Idaho Code, except:

(a) Records otherwise deemed to be public records not exempt from disclosure pursuant to this chapter; and
(b) Inspection reports, determinations of compliance or noncompliance and all other records created by the director or his designee pursuant to section [25-3806](#), Idaho Code.

(18) All data and information collected by the division of animal industries or the state brand board pursuant to the provisions of section [25-207B](#), Idaho Code, or rules promulgated thereunder.

(19) Records disclosed to a county official by the state tax commission pursuant to subsection (4)(c) of section [63-3029B](#), Idaho Code.

(20) Records, data, information and materials collected, developed, generated, ascertained or discovered during the course of academic research at public institutions of higher education if the disclosure of such could reasonably affect the conduct or outcome of the research, or the ability of the public institution of higher education to patent or copyright the research or protect intellectual property.

(21) Records, data, information and materials collected or utilized during the course of academic research at public institutions of higher education provided by any person or entity other than the public institution of higher education or a public agency.

(22) The exemptions from disclosure provided in subsections (20) and (21) of this section shall apply only until the academic research is publicly released, copyrighted or patented, or until the academic research is completed or terminated. At such time, the records, data, information, and materials shall be subject to public disclosure unless: (a) another exemption in this chapter applies; (b) such information was provided to the institution subject to a written agreement of confidentiality; or (c) public disclosure would pose a danger to persons or property.

(23) The exemptions from disclosure provided in subsections (20) and (21) of this section do not include basic information about a particular research project that is otherwise subject to public disclosure, such as the nature of the academic research, the name of the researcher, and the amount and source of the funding provided for the project.

(24) Records of a county assessor, the state tax commission, a county board of equalization or the state board of tax appeals containing the following information: (i) lists of personal property required to be filed pursuant to section [63-302](#), Idaho Code, and operating statements required to be filed pursuant to section [63-404](#), Idaho Code, and (ii) confidential commercial or financial information including trade secrets. Except with respect to lists of personal property required to be filed pursuant to section [63-302](#), Idaho Code, and the operator statements required to be filed pursuant to section [63-404](#), Idaho Code, it shall be the responsibility of the taxpayer to give notice of its claim to exemption by stamping or marking each page or the first page of each portion of documents so claimed. No records that are exempt pursuant to this subsection shall be disclosed without the consent of the taxpayer except as follows:

(a) To any officer, employee or authorized representative of the state or the United States, under a continuing claim of confidentiality, as necessary to carry out the provisions of state or federal law or when relevant to any proceeding thereunder.

(b) In the publication of statistics or reports as long as the statistics or reports do not reasonably lead to the identification of the specific taxpayer or information submitted by taxpayers exempt pursuant to this subsection.

(c) To the board of tax appeals or the district court as evidence or otherwise in connection with an appeal of the taxpayer's property tax assessment, but only if the board or the court, as applicable, has entered a protective order specifying that the taxpayer information may not be disclosed by any person conducting or participating in the action or proceeding, except as authorized by the board or the court in accordance with applicable law.

(d) Nothing in this subsection shall prevent disclosure of the following information:

- (i) Name and mailing address of the property owner;
- (ii) A parcel number;
- (iii) A legal description of real property;
- (iv) The square footage and acreage of real property;
- (v) The assessed value of taxable property;
- (vi) The tax district and the tax rate; and
- (vii) The total property tax assessed.

(25) Results of laboratory tests which have no known adverse impacts to human health conducted by the Idaho state department of agriculture animal health laboratory, related to diagnosis of animal diseases of individual animals or herds, on samples submitted by veterinarians or animal owners unless:

(a) The laboratory test results indicate the presence of a state or federally reportable or regulated disease in animals;

(b) The release of the test results is required by state or federal law; or

(c) The test result is identified as representing a threat to animal or human health or to the livestock industry by the Idaho state department of agriculture or the United States department of agriculture. Nothing in this subsection shall limit the use which can be made, or availability of such information if used, for regulatory purposes or its admissibility in any enforcement proceeding, or the duty of any person to report contagious or infectious diseases as required by state or federal law.

(26) Results of laboratory tests conducted by the Idaho state department of agriculture seed laboratory on samples submitted by seed producers or seed companies. Nothing in this subsection shall limit the use which can be made, or availability of such information pursuant to the provisions of subsections (9) and (10) of section [22-418](#), Idaho Code.

(27) For policies that are owned by private persons, and not by a public agency of the state of Idaho, records of policies, endorsements, affidavits and any records that discuss policies, endorsements and affidavits that may be required to be filed with or by a surplus line association pursuant to [chapter 12, title 41](#), Idaho Code.

(28) Individual financial statements of a postsecondary educational institution or a proprietary school submitted to the state board of education, its director or a representative thereof, for the purpose of registering the postsecondary

educational institution or proprietary school pursuant to section [33-2402](#) or [33-2403](#), Idaho Code, or provided pursuant to an administrative rule of the board adopted pursuant to such sections.

9-340E. Exemptions from disclosure -- Archaeological, endangered species, libraries, licensing exams. The following records are exempt from disclosure:

- (1) Records, maps or other records identifying the location of archaeological or geophysical sites or endangered species, if not already known to the general public.
- (2) Archaeological and geologic records concerning exploratory drilling, logging, mining and other excavation, when such records are required to be filed by statute for the time provided by statute.
- (3) The records of a library which, when examined alone, or when examined with other public records, would reveal the identity of the library patron checking out, requesting, or using an item from a library.
- (4) The material of a library, museum or archive which has been contributed by a private person, to the extent of any limitation that is a condition of the contribution.
- (5) Test questions, scoring keys, and other data used to administer a licensing examination, employment, academic or other examination or testing procedure before the examination is given if the examination is to be used again. Records establishing procedures for and instructing persons administering, grading or evaluating an examination or testing procedure are included in this exemption, to the extent that disclosure would create a risk that the result might be affected.

9-340F. Records exempt from disclosure -- Draft legislation and supporting materials, tax commission, unclaimed property, petroleum clean water trust fund. The following records are exempt from disclosure:

- (1) Records consisting of draft legislation and documents specifically related to such draft legislation or research requests submitted to the legislative services office by a member of the Idaho legislature for the purpose of placing such draft legislation into a form suitable for introduction as official proposed legislation of the legislature of the state of Idaho, unless the individual legislator having submitted or requested such records or research agrees to waive the provisions of confidentiality provided by this subsection.
- (2) All papers, physical and electronic records and correspondence or other supporting materials comprising the work papers in the possession of the legislative services office or the director of legislative performance evaluations prior to release of the related final audit and all other records or materials in the possession of the legislative services office or the director of legislative performance evaluations that would otherwise be confidential or exempt from disclosure.
- (3) Records consisting of draft congressional and legislative redistricting plans and documents specifically related to such draft redistricting plans or research requests submitted to the commission staff by a member of the commission for reapportionment for the purpose of placing such draft redistricting plan into form suitable for presentation to the full membership of the commission, unless the individual commission member having submitted or requested such plans or research agrees to waive the provisions of confidentiality provided by this subsection.
- (4) Records that identify the method by which the Idaho state tax commission selects tax returns for audit review.
- (5) Records that identify the method by which the administrator of the unclaimed property law set forth in [chapter 5, title 14](#), Idaho Code, selects reports for audit review or conducts audit review of such reports and the identity of individuals or entities under audit.
- (6) Underwriting and claims records of the Idaho petroleum clean water trust fund obtained pursuant to section [41-4905](#), [41-4909](#), [41-4911A](#), [41-4912](#) or [41-4912A](#), Idaho Code. Provided however, that this subsection shall not prevent the Idaho petroleum clean water trust fund's submittal to the Idaho department of environmental quality, or other regulatory agencies of information necessary to satisfy an insured's corrective action requirement under applicable federal or state standards in the event of a release into the environment from a petroleum storage tank; and provided further that nothing in this subsection shall prevent the Idaho petroleum clean water trust fund from providing auditing, reporting, or actuarial information as otherwise required of it pursuant to section [41-4919](#), [41-4925A](#), [41-4928](#), [41-4930](#), [41-4932](#), [41-4937](#) or [41-4938](#), Idaho Code.

9-340G. Exemption from disclosure -- Records of court proceedings regarding judicial authorization of abortion procedures for minors. In accordance with section [18-609A](#), Idaho Code, the following records are exempt from public disclosure: all records contained in court files of judicial proceedings arising under section [18-609A](#), Idaho Code, are exempt from disclosure.

9-340H. Exemption from disclosure -- Records related to the uniform securities act. Except as otherwise determined by the director of the department of finance pursuant to section [30-14-607\(c\)](#), Idaho Code, the following records are exempt from disclosure:

- (1) A record obtained or created by the director of the department of finance or a representative of the director in connection with an audit or inspection under section [30-14-411\(d\)](#), Idaho Code, or an investigation under section [30-14-602](#), Idaho Code;
- (2) A part of a record filed in connection with a registration statement under section [30-14-301](#), Idaho Code, and sections [30-14-303](#) through [30-14-305](#), Idaho Code, or a record under section [30-14-411\(d\)](#), Idaho Code, that contains trade secrets or confidential information if the person filing the registration statement or report has asserted a claim of confidentiality or privilege that is authorized by law;
- (3) A record that is not required to be provided to the director of the department of finance or filed under [chapter 14, title 30](#), Idaho Code, and is provided to the director only on the condition that the record will not be subject to public examination or disclosure;
- (4) A nonpublic record received from a person specified in section [30-14-608\(a\)](#), Idaho Code; and
- (5) Any social security number, residential address unless used as a business address, and residential telephone number unless used as a business telephone number, contained in a record that is filed pursuant to [chapter 14, title 30](#), Idaho Code.

9-341. Exempt and nonexempt public records to be separated. If any public record contains material which is not exempt from disclosure as well as material which is exempt from disclosure, the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic shall, upon receipt of a request for disclosure, separate the exempt and nonexempt material and make the nonexempt material available for examination, provided that a denial of a request to copy nonexempt material in a public record shall not be based upon the fact that such nonexempt material is contained in the same public record as the exempt material.

9-342. Access to records about a person by a person. (1) A person may inspect and copy the records of a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic pertaining to that person, even if the record is otherwise exempt from public disclosure.

(2) A person may request in writing an amendment of any record pertaining to that person. Within ten (10) days of the receipt of the request, the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic shall either:

(a) Make any correction of any portion of the record which the person establishes is not accurate, relevant, or complete; or
(b) Inform the person in writing of the refusal to amend in accordance with the request and the reasons for the refusal, and indicate clearly the person's right to appeal the refusal and the time period for doing so. The procedures for appealing a refusal to amend shall be the same as those set forth in sections [9-343](#) and [9-344](#), Idaho Code, and the court may award reasonable costs and attorney's fees to the prevailing party or parties, if it finds that the request for amendment or refusal to amend was frivolously pursued.

(3) The right to inspect and amend records pertaining to oneself does not include the right to review:

(a) Otherwise exempt investigatory records of a public agency or independent public body corporate and politic if the investigation is ongoing;

(b) Information that is compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action or proceeding which is not otherwise discoverable;

(c) The information relates to adoption records;

(d) Information which is otherwise exempt from disclosure by statute or court rule;

(e) Records of a prisoner maintained by the state or local agency having custody of the prisoner or formerly having custody of the prisoner or by the commission of pardons and parole.

9-342A. Access to air quality and hazardous waste records -- Protection of trade secrets. (1) To the extent required by the federal clean air act and the resource conservation and recovery act for state primacy over any delegated or authorized programs, even if the record is otherwise exempt from disclosure under [chapter 3, title 9](#), Idaho Code, any person may inspect and copy:

(a) Air pollution emission data;

(b) The content of any title V operating permit;

(c) The name and address of any applicant or permittee for a hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facility permit pursuant to [chapter 44, title 39](#), Idaho Code; and

(d) Any other record required to be provided to or obtained by the department of environmental quality pursuant to the federal clean air act and the resource conservation and recovery act, and the implementing state statutes, federal regulations and state rules, unless the record is a trade secret.

(2) For purposes of this section, a record, or a portion of the record, is a "trade secret" if the information contained in the record is a trade secret within the meaning of the Idaho trade secrets act, sections [48-801](#), et seq., Idaho Code, including commercial or financial information which, if disclosed, could cause substantial competitive harm to the person from whom the record was obtained.

(3) Any record, or portion of a record, provided to or obtained by the department of environmental quality and identified by the person providing the record as a trade secret shall not be disclosed to the public and shall be kept confidential according to the procedures established in this section.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting the disclosure of a trade secret by the department of environmental quality:

(a) To any officer, employee, or authorized representative of the state or the United States, under a continuing claim of confidentiality, as necessary to carry out the provisions of state or federal law, or when relevant to any proceeding thereunder;

(b) As determined necessary by the director of the department of environmental quality (under a continuing confidentiality claim) to protect the public health and safety from imminent and substantial endangerment;

(c) As required by state or federal law, including section [9-343](#)(3), Idaho Code, under a continuing claim of confidentiality and subsection (1), of this section; or

(d) With the consent of the person from whom the record is obtained.

(5) It shall be the responsibility of any person providing a record to the department of environmental quality to give notice of the existence of a trade secret on each page or other portion of information at the time of submittal and such person shall have the burden of demonstrating that the information is a trade secret.

(6) Notwithstanding the time frames set forth in section [9-339](#)(1), Idaho Code, when a request is made to the department of environmental quality pursuant to the provisions of this chapter for the disclosure of information for which a trade secret claim has been made, and the information has not been demonstrated to be a trade secret to the satisfaction of the director of the department of environmental quality, within three (3) working days of receipt of the request for the disclosure of the information the department of environmental quality shall provide a written request for substantiation to the person making the confidentiality claim. A response shall be submitted to the department of environmental quality by the person claiming the trade secret protection within ten (10) working days after receipt of the request for substantiation or the information subject to the claim shall be disclosed without further notice. Upon receipt of a timely response to the request for substantiation, the director of the department of environmental quality shall determine whether the information is a trade secret subject to protection.

- (a) If it is determined that the information, or any portion of the information, is a trade secret, within three (3) working days after receipt of the response, the director of the department of environmental quality shall notify the person requesting the information that the request is denied pursuant to sections [9-339](#)(3) and (4), Idaho Code.
- (b) If it is determined that the information, or any portion of the information, is not a trade secret and is, therefore, subject to disclosure, within three (3) working days after receipt of the response, the director of the department of environmental quality shall inform the person making the confidentiality claim of the determination. The decision shall be a final agency action directly appealable, de novo, to the district court of the county where the records or some part thereof are located. An appeal contesting the decision of the director of the department of environmental quality to release information claimed to be a trade secret shall be filed within ten (10) working days from the date of receipt of the written notice of decision. The information claimed to be a trade secret shall not be disclosed until the period for appeal has expired with no appeal being taken, or a court order has been issued finding that the information is not a trade secret and all appeals of that order have been exhausted.
- (7) In any appeal taken pursuant to this section, the court may award reasonable costs and attorney's fees to the prevailing party if it finds the claim of confidentiality or the decision of the director of the department of environmental quality to provide records was frivolously pursued.
- (8) The department of environmental quality shall adopt rules which include:
- (a) Appropriate measures to safeguard and protect against improper disclosure of trade secrets, including procedures to train all employees on the proper handling of trade secrets; and
- (b) Any other provisions necessary to carry out this section.
- (9) As it relates to the department of environmental quality, or to agents, contractors, or other representatives of the department, the immunity created in section [9-346](#), Idaho Code, shall apply only when disclosure of a trade secret is made consistent with this section.

9-343. Proceedings to enforce right to examine or to receive a copy of records -- Retention of disputed records. (1) The sole remedy for a person aggrieved by the denial of a request for disclosure is to institute proceedings in the district court of the county where the records or some part thereof are located, to compel the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic to make the information available for public inspection in accordance with the provisions of sections [9-337](#) through [9-348](#), Idaho Code. The petition contesting the public agency's or independent public body corporate and politic's decision shall be filed within one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of mailing of the notice of denial or partial denial by the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic. In cases in which the records requested are claimed as exempt pursuant to section [9-340D](#)(1) or (24), Idaho Code, the petitioner shall be required to name as a party and serve the person or entity that filed or provided such documents to the agency, and such person or entity shall have standing to oppose the request for disclosure and to support the decision of the agency to deny the request. The time for responsive pleadings and for hearings in such proceedings shall be set by the court at the earliest possible time, or in no event beyond twenty-eight (28) calendar days from the date of filing.

(2) The public agency or independent public body corporate and politic shall keep all documents or records in question until the end of the appeal period, until a decision has been rendered on the petition, or as otherwise statutorily provided, whichever is longer.

(3) Nothing contained in sections [9-337](#) through [9-348](#), Idaho Code, shall limit the availability of documents and records for discovery in the normal course of judicial or administrative adjudicatory proceedings, subject to the law and rules of evidence and of discovery governing such proceedings. Additionally, in any criminal appeal or post-conviction civil action, sections [9-335](#) through [9-348](#), Idaho Code, shall not make available the contents of prosecution case files where such material has previously been provided to the defendant nor shall sections [9-335](#) through [9-348](#), Idaho Code, be available to supplement, augment, substitute or supplant discovery procedures in any other federal, civil or administrative proceeding.

9-344. Order of the court -- Court costs and attorney fees. (1) Whenever it appears that certain public records are being improperly withheld from a member of the public, the court shall order the public official charged with withholding the records to disclose the public record or show cause why he should not do so. The court shall decide the case after examining the pleadings filed by the parties and such oral arguments and additional evidence as the court may allow. The court may examine the record in camera in its discretion.

(2) If the court finds that the public official's decision to refuse disclosure is not justified, it shall order the public official to make the requested disclosure. If the court determines that the public official was justified in refusing to make the requested record available, he shall return the item to the public official without disclosing its content and shall enter an order supporting the decision refusing disclosure. In any such action, the court shall award reasonable costs and attorney fees to the prevailing party or parties, if it finds that the request or refusal to provide records was frivolously pursued.

9-345. Additional penalty. If the court finds that a public official has deliberately and in bad faith improperly refused a legitimate request for inspection or copying, a civil penalty shall be assessed against the public official in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), which shall be paid into the general account.

9-346. Immunity. No public agency or independent public body corporate and politic, public official, or custodian shall be liable, nor shall a cause of action exist, for any loss or damage based upon the release of a public record governed by the provisions of this chapter if the public agency or independent public body corporate and politic, public official or custodian acted in good faith in attempting to comply with the provisions of this chapter.

9-347. Agency guidelines. By January 1, 1991, every state agency or independent public body corporate and politic shall adopt guidelines that identify the general subject matter of all public records kept or maintained by the state agency or independent public body corporate and politic, the custodian, and the physical location of such documents.

9-348. Prohibition on distribution or sale of mailing or telephone number lists -- Penalty. (1) Except as provided in subsections (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9) of this section, in order to protect the privacy of those who deal with public agencies or an independent public body corporate and politic:

(a) No agency or independent public body corporate and politic may distribute or sell for use as a mailing list or a telephone number list any list of persons without first securing the permission of those on the list; and

(b) No list of persons prepared by the agency or independent public body corporate and politic may be used as a mailing list or a telephone number list except by the agency or independent public body corporate and politic or another agency without first securing the permission of those on the list.

(2) Except as may be otherwise provided in this chapter, this section does not prevent an individual from compiling a mailing list or a telephone number list by examination or copying of public records, original documents or applications which are otherwise open to public inspection.

(3) The provisions of this section do not apply to the lists of registered electors compiled pursuant to [title 34](#), Idaho Code, or to lists of the names of employees governed by [chapter 53, title 67](#), Idaho Code.

(4) The provisions of this section shall not apply to agencies which issue occupational or professional licenses.

(5) This section does not apply to the right of access either by Idaho law enforcement agencies or, by purchase or otherwise, of public records dealing with motor vehicle registration.

(6) This section does not apply to a corporate information list developed by the office of the secretary of state containing the name, address, registered agent, officers and directors of corporations authorized to do business in this state or to a business information list developed by the department of commerce containing the name, address, telephone number or other relevant information of Idaho businesses or individuals requesting information regarding the state of Idaho or to business lists developed by the department of agriculture, division of marketing and development, used to promote food and agricultural products produced in Idaho.

(7) This section does not apply to lists to be used for ordinary utility purposes which are requested by a person who supplies utility services in this state. Ordinary utility purposes, as used in this chapter only, do not include marketing or marketing research.

(8) This section does not apply to lists to be used to give notice required by any statute, ordinance, rule, law or by any governing agency.

(9) This section does not apply to student directory information provided by colleges, universities, secondary schools and school districts to military recruiters for military recruiting purposes pursuant to the requirements of federal laws.

(10) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the release of information to the state controller as the state social security administrator as provided in section [59-1101A](#), Idaho Code.

(11) If a court finds that a person or public official has deliberately and in bad faith violated the provisions of subsection (1)(a) or (1)(b) of this section, the person or public official shall be liable for a civil penalty assessed by the court in an amount not in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) which shall be paid into the general account.

9-349. replevin -- PUBLIC RECORDS -- IMPROPER OR UNLAWFUL TRANSFER OR REMOVAL. (1) Public records of the state and/or territory of Idaho are the property of the citizens of the state in perpetuity and they may not be improperly or unlawfully transferred or removed from their proper custodian. For purposes of this section, the terms "public record" and "record," or plurals thereof, shall have the same meaning as "public record" as provided in section [9-337](#), Idaho Code.

(2) For the purpose of this section, where public records of a county, local district, or independent public body corporate and politic thereof are involved, all references to the state archivist also refer to any responsible public official or records custodian and all references to the attorney general also refer to county prosecutors.

(3) Whenever the state archivist or their designee has reasonable grounds to believe that records belonging to the state, county, local district, or independent public body corporate and politic thereof, are in the possession of a person or entity not authorized by law to possess those records, and such possession was acquired on or after July 1, 2011, he or she may issue a written notice demanding that person or entity to do either of the following within ten (10) calendar days of receiving the notice:

(a) Return the records to the office of origin or the Idaho state archives; or

(b) Respond in writing and declare why the records do not belong to the state or a local agency.

(4) The notice and demand shall identify the records claimed to belong to the state or local agency with reasonable specificity, and shall specify that the state archivist may undertake legal action to recover the records if the person or entity fails to respond in writing within the required time or does not adequately demonstrate that the records do not belong to the state or a local agency.

(5) If a person or entity that receives a written notice and demand from the state archivist pursuant to this chapter fails to deliver the described records, fails to respond to the notice and demand within the required time, or does not adequately demonstrate that the records do not belong to the state or a local agency, the state archivist may ask the attorney general to petition a court of competent jurisdiction for an order requiring the return of the records.

(6) The court may issue any order necessary to protect the records from destruction, alteration, transfer, conveyance or alienation by the person or entity in possession of the records, and may order that the records be surrendered into the custody of the state archivist pending the court's decision on the petition.

(7) After a hearing, and upon a finding that the specified records are in the possession of a person or entity not authorized by law to possess the records, the court shall order the records to be delivered to the state archivist or other official designated by the court.

(8) If the attorney general recovers a record under this section, the court may award attorney's fees and court costs.

(9) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any public record that is in the custody of an organization or institution shall not be subject to the provisions of this section provided:

(a) That professional standards recognized by the society of American archivists for the management and preservation of historical records are maintained; and

(b) Such records are accessible to the public in a manner consistent with sections [9-337](#) through [9-352](#), inclusive, Idaho Code.

(10) When a record is returned pursuant to subsection (3)(a) of this section, upon the request of the person, organization or institution that returned the record, the record custodian that receives the record shall issue to that person, organization or institution a copy or digital image of the record which shall be certified as a true copy of the record that was returned to the state or local agency, and dated on the same day the record was returned.

9-350. Confidentiality language required in this chapter. On and after January 1, 1996, any statute which is added to the Idaho Code and provides for the confidentiality or closure of any public record or class of public records shall be placed in this chapter. Any statute which is added to the Idaho Code on and after January 1, 1996, and which provides for confidentiality or closure of a public record or class of public records and is located at a place other than this chapter shall be null, void and of no force and effect regarding the confidentiality or closure of the public record and such public record shall be open and available to the public for inspection as provided in this chapter.